

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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DATE ENTERED

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORMSEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

LA GRANGE

AND/OR COMMON

La Grange

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

South side of Maryland Route 6, 1/2 mile west of U.S.
Route 301 (201 Port Tobacco Road) NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

La Plata

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

First

STATE

Maryland

CODE

24

COUNTY

Charles

CODE

017

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT
☒ BUILDING(S)
☐ STRUCTURE
☐ SITE
☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC
☒ PRIVATE
☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED
☐ UNOCCUPIED
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED
☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE ☐ MUSEUM
☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ PARK
☐ EDUCATIONAL ☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE
☐ ENTERTAINMENT ☐ RELIGIOUS
☐ GOVERNMENT ☐ SCIENTIFIC
☐ INDUSTRIAL ☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ MILITARY ☐ OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Mr. and Mrs. Charles G. La Hood, Jr.

STREET & NUMBER

La Grange, 201 Port Tobacco Road

CITY, TOWN

La Plata

VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland 20646

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Charles County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

La Plata

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CH-3

CONDITION

☒ EXCELLENT☐ GOOD☐ FAIR☐ DETERIORATED☐ RUINS☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☒ UNALTERED☐ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE☐ MOVED

DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

La Grange is located on the south side of Maryland Route 6, one-half mile west of U.S. Route 301, on the western edge of the town of La Plata, Charles County, Maryland.

La Grange is a large, two-story, gable-roofed frame house with brick ends and four large exterior chimneys. The clapboarded principal facade faces east and has a central, Palladian-style, pedimented pavilion. Constructed like a double height portico, it has on the second story one window of nine-over-nine sash flanked by two blind panels and four fluted pilasters. On the first story is a triple arch motif, i.e., flanking either side of the central doorway is a recessed, arched panel containing small, four-over-four pane windows and surmounted by an incised triangle simulating a pediment. The door, set in a slightly larger niche with a semi-circular fanlight, is flanked by two flat pilasters. At either end of this triple arch motif stands a fluted, engaged column with Ionic capitols, cushion side out. All columns and pilasters rest on plinths. Four nine-over-nine sash windows flank the pavilion on both floor levels, two on each side, with the first floor windows proportionately longer and wider than those of the second. All have louvered blinds that probably replaced earlier paneled ones. Fronting the pavilion is a large frame stoop with flanking side rails and front balustrade that was added to the house in the mid-twentieth century.

The west, or rear, elevation has a one-story farm porch running the length of the house. It is a partial replacement of a nineteenth-century porch shown in early (1920-1930's) photographs of the house. Like the facade, this elevation is five bays in width, but without the central pavilion. The rear entrance doorway, probably contemporary with extensive early nineteenth-century renovations to the house, has a semi-circular fanlight and narrow sidelights, all set in a simple frame. The roof cornice of both elevations is decorated with mutules and ogee bed and crown moldings, a treatment continued into and below the pediment of the front pavilion.

On both brick ends of the house, the flat-headed windows of the first and second floor levels are replacements of earlier openings in size, styling and general location. The original windows were slightly narrower and shorter and had arched heads. The windows of the attic level, two on each end of the house, also have flat heads and might be alterations over previous openings. The brick of the ends is laid in common bond, with a course of header brick every fourth row and a random sprinkling of glazed brick. The four chimneys, two on each end, have flat, tapered weatherings and corbeled caps.

At the south end of the house is a two-story, semi-detached kitchen appears, from its styling, brickwork, and interior fabric, to date from the early nineteenth century. A brick hyphen, physically joining

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the kitchen to an original one-story projecting pent closet between the two south chimneys of the main block, seems to date somewhat later, although many of the decorative and structural elements of the kitchen are repeated. The base of a chimney, with the lower part of a tiled weathering, on the north end of the kitchen and seen in the cellar of the hyphen, suggests that the kitchen replaced an earlier, possibly frame, structure with a massive, multi-tiered exterior chimney.

An unusual feature of the projecting, one-story, shed-roofed chimney pent of the main block is the presence of narrow windows on its side walls, the only such detail recorded in lower Southern Maryland. Also of interest is the fact that the hyphen does not actually join the main block to the kitchen by providing a passageway between the two, as would normally be the case. Instead, passage to the kitchen was gained by a door on the west side of the southwest chimney of the main block (later altered to a window), through a roofed breezeway on the west side of the hyphen, and then through a door near the west end of the north wall of the kitchen.

The ground floor configuration of the main block consists of a wide center hall flanked by two rooms on each side. The hall is the only ground floor room retaining its eighteenth century woodwork, including paneled wainscoting, heavily molded baseboards and chairrails, and a giant transverse arch with stop fluting on the pilasters. An unusually deep and graceful stairway with extremely low risers (5") and deep treads (12"), patterned steps, and a veneered fascia above a paneled closet rises west to east along the south side of the hall. The balustrade, which has a molded rail and turned and blocked balusters, terminates in a spiral grouping of rails and balusters in typical eighteenth century style.

Stylistically, the plaster ceiling cornices, circular ceiling medallions, and door and window enframements (including those of both outside end doors) of the hall date from the early nineteenth century, probably between about 1815 and about 1830. The woodwork, including doors, door and window surrounds, baseboards and mantels in the four flanking rooms date from this same period.

The woodwork of the second floor, however, appears original to the house, all of it being stylistically characteristic of the eighteenth century. The baseboards, with a deeply coved upper molding, and the bolection-type chairrails are of particular interest, being similar in profile to the baseboards and chairrails seen at Holly Hill (Phase III, circa 1730), Anne Arundel County, Maryland. Space for additional closet and bathrooms was provided during the most recent restoration-renovation by partitioning off a room at each end of the second floor hall.

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The attic level, access to which is provided by a small stair enclosed in a closet off the second floor hall, has plastered walls and ceilings and is partitioned into three rooms. The plastering, as well as the partition walls, appears from the physical evidence to have been introduced in the early or mid-nineteenth century. It was about this time that two dormer windows were added to each side of the roof. Although the dormers were removed during the circa 1945 restoration-renovation, they have been recorded in early twentieth century photographs of the house.

The heavily framed roof, employing diagonal braces footed on a center tie beam (presumably seated on top of the roof collars) and morticed and pinned into corresponding rafters, suggests that the original roof covering, like that present today, might have been of slate. If so, it constitutes the earliest known use of slate as a roofing material in Charles County.

Access to the cellar of the main block is gained through a doorway at the base of the south end chimney pent. This entryway is now enclosed in the cellar of the hyphen. The present brick stairway leading from the breezeway down to the door does not correspond in plan or location to an earlier brick stair, portions of which are located on the north end of the kitchen, winding down between the original north end chimney and the northwest corner of the building.

Originally, the cellar was divided into at least four rooms. The two south end rooms had frame, board-sheathed partition walls. Evidence of a former and rather expansive arched fireplace opening in the south-east room indicates that it was probably utilized as a winter kitchen.

The early nineteenth century hyphen and kitchen contain a modern kitchen in the hyphen and a family room in the former kitchen. The latter room has a commodious fireplace opening on its south wall equipped with trammel bars and cranes, corner cupboards (one stylistically dateable to the early nineteenth century, the other a recent copy) flanking the fireplace, and a stair on the north wall enclosed within a board-sheathed closet.

Besides the kitchen and hyphen, the only other dependency at La Grange is a frame smokehouse situated a few feet west of the kitchen. Its method of construction and other details indicate it was built in the early nineteenth century. Several hundred yards southwest of the house is the family cemetery of the Stonestreets, nineteenth century owners of La Grange.

8. SIGNIFICANCE

CH-3

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		medicine	
				Bicentennial	

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Dr. James Craik, reputed builder of La Grange, was born in Scotland near Dumfries in 1730. After studying medicine in his native country, he left for the American colonies in about 1750. He practiced near Norfolk, Virginia, successfully for several years, then moved to Winchester (Virginia) where he served as surgeon for the fort there. In 1754 he became a surgeon in Colonel Fry's regiment of the colonial troops which was soon after commanded by Colonel George Washington. Craik and Washington began what became a lifelong personal friendship at this time.

From October to December, 1770, Craik and Washington journeyed to the Ohio River valley accompanied by two servants and William Crawford, a surveyor. Their purpose was to inspect and survey the grants of land in that area which had been offered by the British as an incentive to enlistment during the French and Indian War.

After the war had ended, Dr. Craik left the army to begin his medical practice in Charles County, Maryland. In 1760 he married Mariamne Ewell of Prince William's County, Virginia. In February of 1763 he purchased part of a tract of land called "May Day" from William Smallwood, a planter and future general in the Continental Army.¹ Soon after this, Dr. Craik built the frame and brick mansion standing on the property today which he later renamed La Grange, supposedly after the Marquis de Lafayette's home in France.²

After the Boston Port Bill was enacted in 1774, a meeting was held at the Port Tobacco Courthouse in Charles County. The residents of the county agreed to participate in the boycott of British goods and to send deputies to represent them at a protest meeting to be held in Annapolis. Eighteen men, including James Craik, were selected to travel to the capital. Later in the year another meeting was held, this time to elect representatives to the Continental Congress and to select a committee to act for the county in executing any measures agreed upon by the Congress. The one hundred members of the latter were the best known men in the county, again including James Craik. He was also made a member of the county's ten-man committee of correspondence.

¹Charles County Deed L3/274. Hall of Records, Annapolis.

²Effie Gwynn Bowie, Across the Years in Prince George's County (Richmond, Va.: Garrett & Massie, Inc., 1947), p. 192.

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During and after the Revolution, Dr. Craik served in the Medical Department of the Continental Army. In 1777 he was appointed Assistant Director General of the Hospital Department, a post offered to him by his friend, George Washington. The latter also sent him to Newport, Rhode Island, to make hospital arrangements for the French army. In 1780 Craik became one of the Chief Hospital Physicians in the army and in 1781 the Chief Physician and Surgeon. He left the army in 1783 as a member of the newly-formed Society of the Cincinnati, but returned as Physician General from 1780 until 1800.

Dr. Craik accompanied General Washington on a second trip to the Ohio Valley in 1784. Five years later, during his first year as President, Washington wrote the following after a period of illness:

The habits of intimacy and friendship in which I have long lived with Dr. Craik, and the opinion I have of his professional knowledge, would most certainly point him out as the man of my choice in all cases of sickness. I am convinced of his sincere attachment to me and I should with cheerfulness trust my life in his hands; but how far circumstances at present would justify his quitting his practice in Alexandria and vicinity, to gratify his inclinations and my wishes, I am not able to say; but, could it be made consistent with his advantage to be near me, I am sure it would be highly pleasing to me³

Craik had moved to Virginia some time in the 1780's, building a house in Alexandria, now known as the Craik House, which is noted for the quality of its Federal-style interior and exterior detail.⁴

With Dr. Gustavus Richard Brown, a close friend and neighbor of Dr. Craik's in Charles County (Rose Hill, a National Register property) and in Alexandria, and Dr. Elisha Cullen Dick, a much younger man, Dr. Craik attended President Washington in the illness which ended with his death in 1799. Washington remembered his doctor friend in his will with this bequest:

To my compatriot in arms, and old & intimate friend Doctr. Craik, I give my Bureau (or as the Cabinet makers call it, Tambour Secretary) and the circular chair--an appendage of my study.⁵

William Craik, the Doctor's son, took care of La Grange for about ten years after his father moved to Alexandria. He was a resident of

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George Town, Maryland (now a part of the District of Columbia), when his father deeded the house to him. But when he sold the property to Francis Newman, Gentleman, of Charles County, the younger Craik was a planter living in Montgomery County, Maryland. Newman paid £4,000 for La Grange and 181 acres, quite a large sum of money in those times. The house was later owned by the Stonestreets, a well-known Charles County family, for over one hundred years, from 1831 until 1936.⁶

La Grange, the home that Dr. Craik built in Charles County on the land acquired from William Smallwood, is of importance as one of only three eighteenth century Charles County houses that attempts an academic, neoclassic form of architectural expression. The significance of La Grange, however, is perhaps greater than that of the other two for the formal treatment of the principal facade, its probable modeling after a prepared architectural design, and the application of these elements on a regionally characteristic house type.

The most apparent regionally associable feature of La Grange is the combined use of brick and frame construction as an integral part of its design. The earliest known house in Charles County having frame sides and brick ends is Sarum (Phase III) where brick ended extensions were made to both ends of an earlier all-frame house in about 1720. The popular use of this combination of materials in Charles and St. Mary's Counties throughout the eighteenth century is amply illustrated by, among others, Sandgates, West St. Mary's Manor, and the Smith Creek House, all one-story mid-eighteenth century houses in St. Mary's County; Ellenborough (circa 1790), Woodlawn (circa 1820), and Salisbury Plains (circa 1825), also in St. Mary's County; and Rose Hill (circa 177-), and House Near Wayside (circa 1790), and the circa 1820 kitchen-service wing of Habre de Venture in Charles County. It is, however, only at La Grange and nearby Rose Hill that the use of brick ends on a frame house attains a degree of distinction beyond that of popular usage, giving these houses, where an obviously deliberate attempt at formality of form, symmetry and design was made, an even greater strength of presence.

La Grange and Rose Hill share striking similarities and they might well have been designed and/or built by the same craftsmen. The brick-work of the ends of both houses is so remarkably close in manner of execution that it seems undoubtable that they were fashioned by the same hands. The general form of the central blocks, particularly the basic plan and some detailing, are also relatable. The similarity between these two buildings, so often referred to as exemplifying the most common type of Georgian "mansion-type" to be built by wealthy

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Tidewater planters, can perhaps be accounted for by their proximity to one another and the fact that they were built within one decade by two men who shared an intimate personal and professional relationship.

That these two houses were not the best nor the earliest two-story houses to be executed in the Georgian manner in lower Southern Maryland, as is often stated, is evidenced by houses like Mulberry Fields (circa 1766), St. Mary's County, which has formally placed dependencies and landscaped grounds surrounding the square, hipped roof main block, and St. Thomas Manor (1741), Charles County, which rivals in the excellence of its brickwork and detailing many of the finest Georgian mansions of Maryland and Virginia. A remaining dependency of Battin's Cliffs (Blenheim), Charles County, from all accounts an extremely handsome and formal Georgian-style brick mansion begun in the 1750's, indicates that the main house must have been a truly magnificent edifice and that the use of the word "elegant" in a 1781 description was not without foundation. There were undoubtedly other such houses which no longer exist; nevertheless, La Grange rivals these splendid seats in that it is the only one of those remaining and those of which some pictorial or verbal record exists, that successfully captures a true academic spirit in the neoclassicism of its front pavilion.

The earliest known use of a pavilion on a house whose plan was based on an academic formula is at Rosewell, Gloucester County, Virginia, begun by Mann Page about 1726 and the earliest and finest Georgian residence known to have been built in the English colonies. Rosewell marked a decisive turning point when the major design considerations in American architecture were changing from ones of simple function to those of pure form. The Palladian movement in vogue in Europe and England throughout the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries found a patron in the wealthy planters and landowners of the Tidewater region, men whose idea of a proper social and cultural life was firmly rooted in the customs of the England they had left behind.

The wealthy planters, after one or two generations spent amassing properties and creating what was in more than one instance a veritable kingdom, could now afford the pleasure of a residence that ideally would be as refined and as elegant as those being built in England. It was these men, perhaps more so in Virginia than in Maryland, that began building mansions for themselves that copied, as far as expertise and financial ability would allow, the architectural formulas of such leading architects as James Gibbs.

Gibbs, a disciple of Andrea Palladio whose treatise on classic architecture in the sixteenth century was to influence the course

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of Western architecture for centuries to come, was one of several English architects whose designs were closely followed in the architecture of the wealthy Tidewater planters. The south facade of Mt. Airy, Richmond County, Virginia, an especially fine five-part stone mansion built by John Tayloe in 1758, was patterned on a design for a country house reproduced in Gibbs' Book of Architecture, published in London in 1728.

It is this plan for a principal elevation which may have also served Craik as a model for the pavilioned facade of La Grange. Obvious similarities exist, most particularly the use of a triple arched arcade or loggia, though at La Grange this is superimposed on the pavilion. Still, the impression of depth is there, as is the analogous arrangement of basic components. Although the use of blind windowless panels flanking the center window on the second floor level of the pavilion leaves the impression of an incomplete arrangement, the form itself, effectively using such subtle details as the incised triangles over the first floor windows to simulate pediments, is well planned and executed.

That Mt. Airy, if not the published design by Gibbs, might have influenced the treatment of the pavilion at La Grange is given some credence by the knowledge that Mt. Airy was being built at about the same time that Craik was living and practicing medicine in the vicinity of Norfolk. He quite easily might have visited the house while it was under construction or later while visiting the area in the company of his friend, George Washington, whose parents' home, Wakefield, was situated nearby. Whatever role Mt. Airy might have played in formulating the design for La Grange, an obvious relationship exists. But whether the buildings constitute individual interpretations of Gibbs' design or La Grange was modeled after Mt. Airy is a question that cannot be immediately, if ever, answered.

It is possible that La Grange, like Mulberry Fields and other Tidewater Georgian houses of the mid-eighteenth century which utilized detached, formally arranged dependencies as an integral part of a total design concept, had single flanking dependencies positioned off from the ends of the house. At present, however, there is insufficient evidence to support this theory. It is known that the present kitchen-wing at the south end of the house replaced an earlier detached building. At the same distance from the north end of the house there is an early well, a scattering of brickbats and ground surface irregularities which suggest that a second similar building, perhaps a quarter or a wash house, might have stood here. The use of flanking independent buildings

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in a great percentage of recorded mid-eighteenth century Georgian site plans in the Tidewater region increases the probability that a similar plan was followed at La Grange. Research into the land and tax records of the property have established that there were at least five out-buildings standing on the property between circa 1770 and 1798, but there is no indication of how these buildings were situated in relation to the house. It is likely, then, that only an archaeological examination of the site will confirm or deny the probability of their existence.

Even without realizing a "complete" plan of this nature, the architectural and historical significance of La Grange as it exists today is readily apparent. Not only does La Grange represent an interesting coupling of the Georgian neoclassic style with an otherwise typical regional house plan, it is also the only surviving Georgian house in Southern Maryland that renders it with such success. Its ownership and probable design and construction by such a notable eighteenth century personality and Revolutionary-era figure as Dr. Craik only further establishes its place as one of Maryland's most important historic and architectural landmarks.

³J. M. Toner, M.D., A Sketch of the Life and Character of Dr. James Craik . . . (Richmond, Va.; 1879), from the Toner Collection, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C., copy in the files of the Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, Maryland.

⁴Deering Davis, Stephen P. Dorsey, and Ralph Cole Hall, Alexandria Houses, 1750-1830 (n.p.: Architectural Book Publishing Co., Inc., 1946), p. 74.

⁵John C. Fitzpatrick, ed., The Last Will and Testament of George Washington (n.p.: The Mount Vernon Ladies' Association of the Union, 1939), p. 17.

⁶Charles County Deeds IB2/47, IB2/456, IB12/182, IB19/406, JHC1/458, BGS10/590, WMA35/646, WMA62/326.

Major Bibliographical References, continued

Federal Direct Tax Assessment of 1798, Port Tobacco Parish, Charles County, Maryland.
First Census of the United States, 1790.

see continuation sheet #8

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CH-3

PRIMARY SOURCES, Charles County Courthouse, La Plata, Maryland, and Hall of Records, Annapolis, Maryland.

Charles County Land Records.
Charles County Probate Records.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 12 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A 1, 8 3, 26, 2, 80 42, 6, 5, 66, 0
ZONE EASTING NORTHING
C 1, 8 3, 26, 5, 90 42, 6, 5, 62, 0

B 1, 8 3, 26, 4, 80 42, 6, 5, 7, 90
ZONE EASTING NORTHING
D 1, 8 3, 26, 3, 80 42, 6, 5, 5, 00

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Square marked at the corners by the above UTM reference points.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE J. Richard Rivoire, Architectural Historian
Pamela James, Assistant Historian

ORGANIZATION Maryland Historical Trust

DATE

July 1975

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

21 State Circle

(301) 267-1438

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Annapolis

Maryland 21401

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL X

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

John N. Pearce

DATE

4/30/76

TITLE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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Letter, 20 May 1777, Dr. Craik to the Rev. Bartholomew Booth, Hall of Records Gift Collection, D310/6.

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Toner, J. M., M.D. A Sketch of the Life and Character of Dr. James
Craik Richmond, Va., 1879. From the Toner Collection,
Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. Copy in the files of
the Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, Maryland.

Waterman, Thomas Tileston. The Mansions of Virginia, 1706-1776.
New York: Bonanza Books, 1945.

1. STATE Maryland COUNTY Charles County TOWN VICINITY STREET NO. 1 mile west of La Plata, Md. 6 ORIGINAL OWNER Dr. James Craik ORIGINAL USE Dwelling PRESENT OWNER PRESENT USE Dwelling WALL CONSTRUCTION Brick and frame NO. OF STORIES 2		HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY INVENTORY CH - 3	
2. NAME La Grange DATE OR PERIOD c. 1760 STYLE Georgian ARCHITECT BUILDER Dr. James Craik		3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE	
4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION OPEN TO PUBLIC <u>NO</u> <p>La Grange, near La Plata, is a two-story Georgian structure, three bays deep. Dr. James Craik, the builder, was George Washington's friend and physician. At each of the two brick ends of this three bays deep, frame, building is an end-chimney laid in English bond. The facades are five bays long. The east facade has a pavilion with pediment. The pavilion has three arched recesses between four engaged pilasters, containing a panelled door with a fanlight and two narrow windows. At the second floor level there are four fluted pilasters with only one 9 over 9 window. The pavilion is flanked by two windows on each side at each floor level with 9 over 9 sash. The wood cornice is trimmed with large block modillions. There are louvered shutters throughout.</p> <p>A one-story porch runs the length of the west facade. The center door with narrow, flanking windows is treated as an architectural unit in the Palladian manner.</p> <p>There is a two-story, two-bay brick kitchen connected to the main section by a one-story, three-bay hyphen. The brick of the latter portions are laid in common bond and there is a brick cornice with dentils. The chimney of the kitchen projects from the wall. It has 9 over 9 sash at first, and 6 over 9 sash at the second floor levels. (continued page 2)</p>			
5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE Endangered Interior Exterior <u>Condition: Very good</u>			
6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional) 		7. PHOTOGRAPH	
8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages) INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC. <p style="text-align: center;">See Page 2</p>		9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER <p style="text-align: center;">Michael O. Bourne Maryland Historical Trust</p> <p style="text-align: center;">DATE OF RECORD March 14, 1968</p>	

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La Grange
Charles County

Page 2

The north gable has two windows at the first floor level and three windows at the second floor level with 9 over 9 sash and segmental arches over the windows. In the attic there are two 6 over 6 windows.

The descendants of Dr. James Craik in 1932 erected a marker which reads:

"
Surgeon General
Revolutionary Army

Dr. James Craik, friend and family physician of General Washington built this place, La Grange, about 1765 and lived here until his removal to Alexandria, Virginia in 1783."
"

Item 8: Published Sources

Forman, Henry Chandlee

Early Manor and Plantation Houses of Maryland,
1934 - page 79

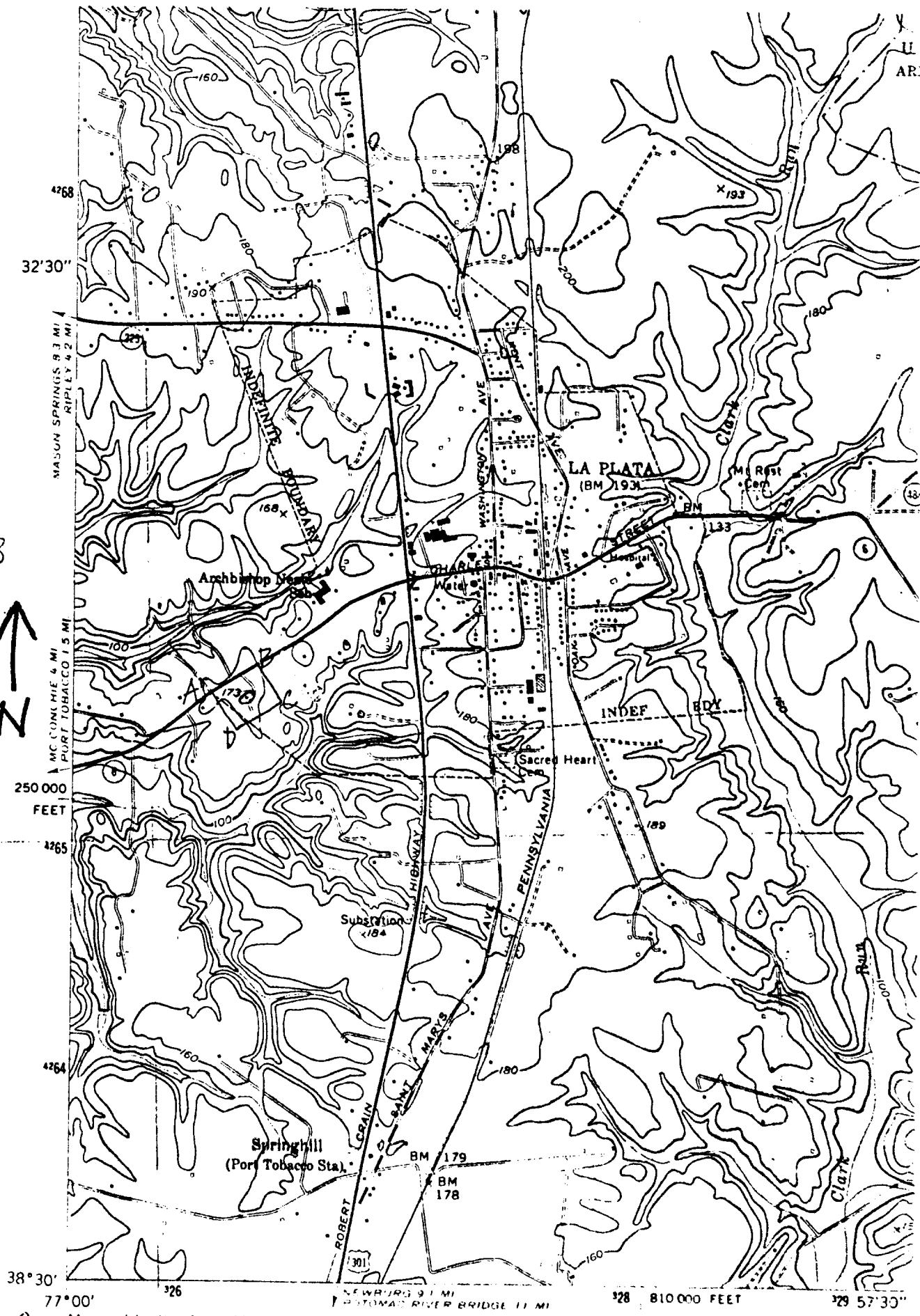
Wilson, Everett B.

Maryland's Colonial Mansions and other Early Homes,
1965, page 216

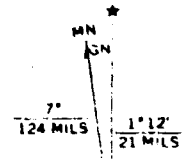
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- B 18/326480/4265790
- C 18/326590/4265620
- D 18/326380/4265500

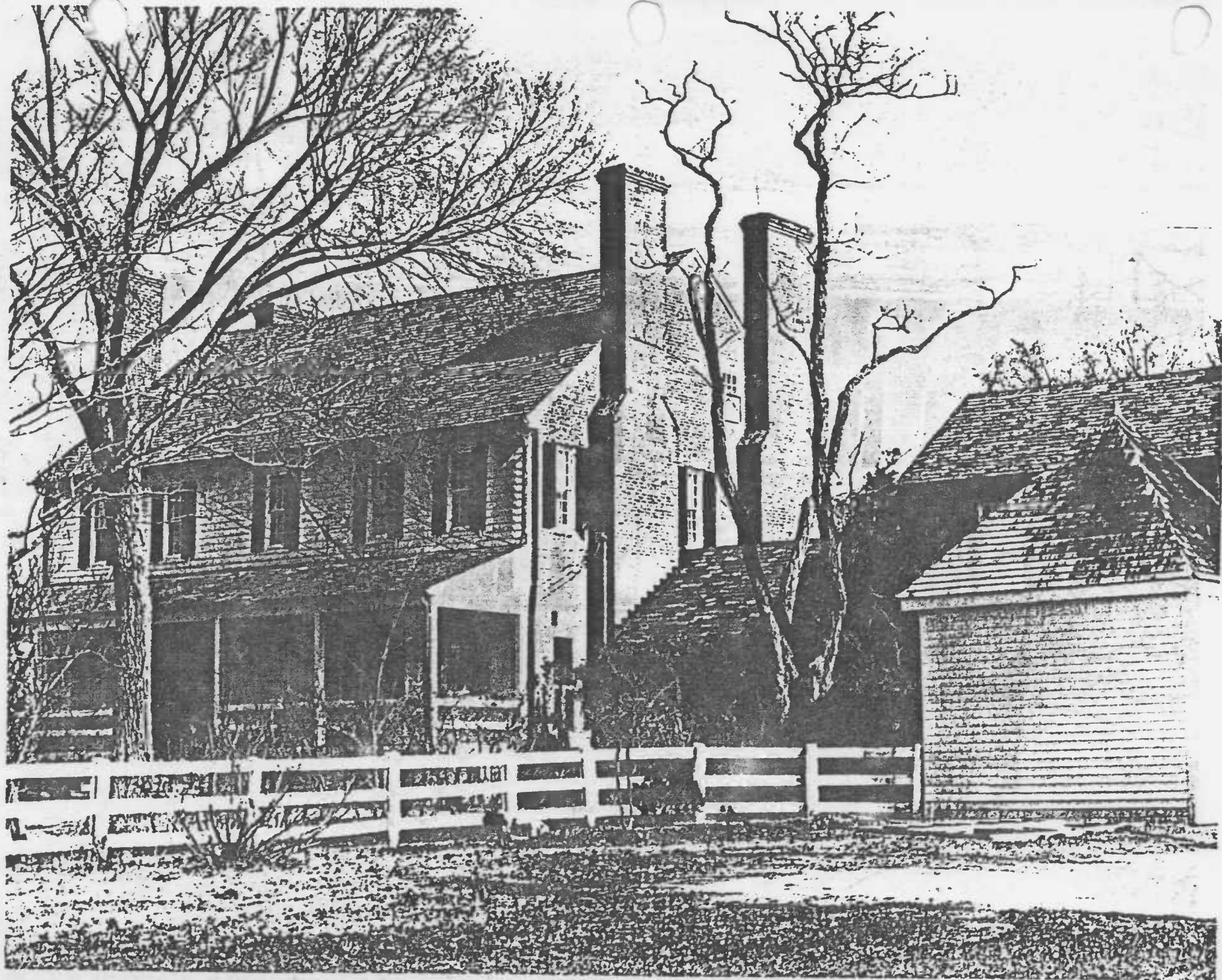
CH-3
LA GRANGE
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MATHIAS POINT
5560 I NE



Mapped by the Army Map Service
 Edited and published by the Geological Survey
 Control by USGS, USC&GS, and USCE
 Culture and drainage in part compiled from aerial photographs
 taken 1943 Topography by planetable surveys 1944
 Culture revised by the Geological Survey 1956







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La Grange Char Co. Jan 169 W. Morgan

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NOV 1900

near of the Grange Charles Co. June 1964

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Photo Wm. W. W. W.



La Grange Char W. Jan 1964 W Morgan

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La Grange - Char Co. June 1965

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Photo in margin



La Grange - Cla Co. Jun 1969 A37

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W. Morgan Smith



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LA GRANGE, CHARLES CTY

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